

hold the two housing parts together in the correct position. The housing 3 is easy to open for maintenance purposes.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-15 and substitute therefore the following new claims 16-40:

16. (New) A yarn feeder (1) particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:

a housing (3) having a fastening clamp (4) for securing the yarn feeder to a retaining device of a textile machine;

said housing (3) being made of plastic;

said fastening clamp (4) having a box-like cross-sectional profile with portions that incur clamping forces when said fastening clamp is fastened to a retaining device; and

said fastening clamp portions being formed entirely of the plastic material of said housing.

17. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which said fastening clamp (4) has a jaw for receiving the retaining device on the textile machine.

18. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 17 in which said housing has two parts (25, 33), and said jaw is formed on one of the housing parts (25, 33).

19. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 17 in which the housing pads (25, 33) fit over one another in the region of the fastening device (4), and said housing parts (25, 33) are joined together by at least one support (27, 28) in the region of the fastening device (4).

20. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 16 including a coupling device (86) for connecting at least one further housing component (89, 90) as required on the housing (3).

21. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 20 in which said coupling device (86) is disposed above the fastening clamp (4).

22. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which the housing (3) has receptacles

into which metal elements (38, 39) are disposed and which serve as conductor tracks for electrical components associated with the yarn feeder.

23. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which an electrically grounded conductor is disposed within the housing and is connected to at least one metal element (95) that is in contact with yarn being fed by the yarn feeder.

24. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 23 including movable yarn sensor elements (45) supported on the metal elements.

25. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which the box-like cross-sectional profile of the fastening device (4) has an interior that includes ribs (33a', 33b', 33c') disposed in parallel relation to each other.

26. (New) A yarn feeder (1) particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:

a housing (3) having a plastic fastening clamp (4) for fastening to a retaining device of a textile machine;

a shaft (6) extending through said housing (3);

a yarn guide drum (12) mounted adjacent an end of said shaft;

a drive for rotating said shaft and yarn guide drum; said drive including at least one pulley(14) carried on said shaft and a drive belt for driving said pulley, said at least one pulley and drive belt being in spaced relation to one side of said yarn guide drum; and

said fastening clamp (4) having portions (33a' 33b', 33c') extending beyond a plane defined by an edge of the drive belt on a yarn guide drum side of the belt.

27. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 26 in which said fastening clamp (4) has a jaw for receiving the retaining device on the textile machine.

28. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 27 in which said housing is in two parts, and said jaw is formed on one of the housing parts (25, 33).

29. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 26 in which the housing parts (25, 33) fit over one another in the region of the fastening clamp (4), and said housing parts (25, 33) are joined together by at least one support (27, 28) in the region of the fastening device (4).

30. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 26 including a coupling device (86) disposed above the fastening clamp (4) for connecting a further component (89, 90) onto the housing.

31. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 26 in which the housing (3) has receptacles into which metal elements (38, 39) are disposed and which serve as conductor tracks for electrical components associated with the yarn feeder.

32. (New) A yarn feeder(1) particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:

a housing (3) having a fastening clamp (4) for fastening to a retaining device of a textile machine;

a shaft (6) extending through said housing (3), a yarn guide drum (4) mounted adjacent an end of said shaft, a drive device(14) connected to another end of said shaft;

yarn guides (95a, 97) for defining a yarn travel path toward and away from the yarn guide drum (12); at least two bearings (7, 8) for rotatably supporting said shaft (6);

said housing (3) having at least one first housing part (25) oriented toward said yarn guide drum (12) and having a bearing seat (10) for one of said bearings (8);

said housing (3) having at least one second housing part (33) oriented toward the drive device (14) and having a seat for the other bearing (7); and

at least one connector (64) for connecting the housing parts (25, 33) together in properly positioned relation.

33. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which said housing (3) has a substantially horizontal dividing seam (83) between said housing parts (25, 33), and said housing parts (25, 33) have alignment members (32, 34, 35) which locate the housing parts (25, 33) in proper positionable relation to each other.

34. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which said bearings (7, 8) are ball

bearings. and said bearing seats (9, 10) are tubular members pointing away from each other integrally formed in the housing parts (25, 33).

35. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 34 in which one of said tubular portions is oriented toward the yarn guide drum (12) and extends into an interior defined by the yarn guide drum (12).

36. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 33 including elastomer bearing receiving elements disposed between the bearing seats (9, 10) and the bearings (7, 8), and said bearing seats (9, 10) have interrupted bearing faces protruding radially inward in the direction toward the bearings (7, 8).

37. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which said fastening clamp (4) has a jaw for receiving the retaining device on the textile machine.

38. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which said housing is made of plastic.

39. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 38 in which an electrically grounded conductor is disposed within the housing and is connected to at least one metal element (95) that is in contact with yarn being fed by the yarn feeder.

40. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 39 including movable sensor elements (45) are supported on the metal elements.

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Delete the heading and abstract and substitute the following:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The yarn feeder having a plastic housing, preferably made of two clamshells, with a plastic fastening device for connecting the yarn feeder to a retaining device of a textile machine. The fastening device is made rigid by suitable shaping and without the necessity for metal inlays. The two clamshell halves of the housing each have a bearing for a

continuous shaft, which on one end carries a yarn guide drum and on its other end carries pulleys for a drive device. Fasteners serve to hold the two housing parts together in the correct position for enabling easy opening of the housing for maintenance.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hermann Schmodde
Richard Kaufmann
Gunter Leopold

Application No.

Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed:

Examiner: Unassigned

For: **THREAD-SUPPLYING DEVICE FOR
TEXTILE MACHINES**

PENDING CLAIMS AFTER ENTRY OF PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

16. A yarn feeder (1) particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:
a housing (3) having a fastening clamp (4) for securing the yarn feeder to a retaining
device of a textile machine;

said housing (3) being made of plastic;

said fastening clamp (4) having a box-like cross-sectional profile with portions that
incur clamping forces when said fastening clamp is fastened to a retaining device; and

said fastening clamp portions being formed entirely of the plastic material of said
housing.

17. The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which said fastening clamp (4) has a jaw for
receiving the retaining device on the textile machine.

18. The yarn feeder of claim 17 in which said housing has two parts (25, 33), and
said jaw is formed on one of the housing parts (25, 33).

19. The yarn feeder of claim 17 in which the housing pads (25, 33) fit over one
another in the region of the fastening device (4), and said housing parts (25, 33) are joined
together by at least one support (27, 28) in the region of the fastening device (4).

20. The yarn feeder of claim 16 including a coupling device (86) for connecting at

least one further housing component (89, 90) as required on the housing (3).

21. The yarn feeder of claim 20 in which said coupling device (86) is disposed above the fastening clamp (4).

22. The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which the housing (3) has receptacles into which metal elements (38, 39) are disposed and which serve as conductor tracks for electrical components associated with the yarn feeder.

23. The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which an electrically grounded conductor is disposed within the housing and is connected to at least one metal element (95) that is in contact with yarn being fed by the yarn feeder.

24. The yarn feeder of claim 23 including movable yarn sensor elements (45) supported on the metal elements.

25. The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which the box-like cross-sectional profile of the fastening device (4) has an interior that includes ribs (33a', 33b', 33c') disposed in parallel relation to each other.

26. A yarn feeder (1) particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:

a housing (3) having a plastic fastening clamp (4) for fastening to a retaining device of a textile machine;

a shaft (6) extending through said housing (3);

a yarn guide drum (12) mounted adjacent an end of said shaft;

a drive for rotating said shaft and yarn guide drum; said drive including at least one pulley(14) carried on said shaft and a drive belt for driving said pulley, said at least one pulley and drive belt being in spaced relation to one side of said yarn guide drum; and

said fastening clamp (4) having portions (33a' 33b, 33c') extending beyond a plane defined by an edge of the drive belt on a yarn guide drum side of the belt.

27. The yarn feeder of claim 26 in which said fastening clamp (4) has a jaw for receiving the retaining device on the textile machine.

28. The yarn feeder of claim 27 in which said housing is in two parts, and said jaw is formed on one of the housing parts (25, 33).

29. The yarn feeder of claim 26 in which the housing parts (25, 33) fit over one another in the region of the fastening clamp (4), and said housing parts (25, 33) are joined together by at least one support (27, 28) in the region of the fastening device (4).

30. The yarn feeder of claim 26 including a coupling device (86) disposed above the fastening clamp (4) for connecting a further component (89, 90) onto the housing.

31. The yarn feeder of claim 26 in which the housing (3) has receptacles into which metal elements (38, 39) are disposed and which serve as conductor tracks for electrical components associated with the yarn feeder.

32. A yarn feeder(1) particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:
a housing (3) having a fastening clamp (4) for fastening to a retaining device of a textile machine;

a shaft (6) extending through said housing (3), a yarn guide drum (4) mounted adjacent an end of said shaft, a drive device(14) connected to another end of said shaft;

yarn guides (95a, 97) for defining a yarn travel path toward and away from the yarn guide drum (12); at least two bearings (7, 8) for rotatably supporting said shaft (6);

said housing (3) having at least one first housing part (25) oriented toward said yarn guide drum (12) and having a bearing seat (10) for one of said bearings (8);

said housing (3) having at least one second housing part (33) oriented toward the drive device (14) and having a seat for the other bearing (7); and

at least one connector (64) for connecting the housing parts (25, 33) together in properly positioned relation.

33. The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which said housing (3) has a substantially

horizontal dividing seam (83) between said housing parts (25, 33), and said housing parts (25, 33) have alignment members (32, 34, 35) which locate the housing parts (25, 33) in proper positionable relation to each other.

34. The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which said bearings (7, 8) are ball bearings. and said bearing seats (9, 10) are tubular members pointing away from each other integrally formed in the housing parts (25, 33).

35. The yarn feeder of claim 34 in which one of said tubular portions is oriented toward the yarn guide drum (12) and extends into an interior defined by the yarn guide drum (12).

36. The yarn feeder of claim 33 including elastomer bearing receiving elements disposed between the bearing seats (9, 10) and the bearings (7, 8), and said bearing seats (9, 10) have interrupted bearing faces protruding radially inward in the direction toward the bearings (7, 8).

37. The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which said fastening clamp (4) has a jaw for receiving the retaining device on the textile machine.

38. The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which said housing is made of plastic.

39. The yarn feeder of claim 38 in which an electrically grounded conductor is disposed within the housing and is connected to at least one metal element (95) that is in contact with yarn being fed by the yarn feeder.

40. The yarn feeder of claim 39 including movable sensor elements (45) are supported on the metal elements.